

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

In the Office Action rejected, claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Weng (US Pat. No.6,512,820, "Weng" hereinafter). Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being obvious over Weng. Claims 8-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 19-22 are allowed. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 7 to further define the invention. Applicant has also amended the Specification for rephrasing some words. Reconsideration of the rejected claims 1-7 is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Amendments

Applicant has amended claim to recite that an external bilateral telephone interface remote control system, comprises an external remote control host and an external remote control extension to form a remote control network. The amendments to the entire Specification, Abstract and the Claims are directed to replacing the phrase "external remote control extension" with the phrase "separate external addition-type remote control extension."

It is believed that the amendment is well supported in the original-filed specification, which meets the requirement of written description set forth in 35 USC.

112, and no new matters are added in the amendments.

As well defined in the MPEP 2163.02, an applicant must convey with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art that, as of the filing date sought, he or she was in possession of the invention, and that the invention, in that context, is whatever is now claimed. The test for sufficiency of support in a parent application is whether the disclosure of the application relied upon "reasonably conveys to the artisan that the inventor had possession at that time of the later claimed subject matter." *Ralston Purina Co. v. Far-Mar-Co., Inc.*, 772 F.2d 1570, 1575, 227 USPQ 177, 179 (Fed. Cir. 1985) (quoting *In re Kaslow*, 707 F.2d 1366, 1375, 217 USPQ 1089, 1096 (Fed. Cir. 1983)).

It is believed that those skilled in the art that, as of the filing date sought, are conveyed with reasonable clarity that the "external remote control extension" is a separate and an addition-type device which could be attached in the separate equipment and is used for controlling the switch of the separate equipment. The reason is set forth as follows.

For example, as stated in paragraph [0104], lines 1-3 of the specification accompanying with FIG.2, which stated that "FIGS. 1 and 4-7 are views illustrating an exemplary external wireless remote control extension 200 for a power switch of an equipment according to an embodiment of the present invention." As also referred to FIG.2, the external wireless remote control extension 200 comprises a shell 201, having two legs 202 screwing on a switch 203 of equipment. As also referred to as stated in paragraph [0108] and FIGs.9-13, "The externally-hanging remote control extension comprises a rectangular shell 201" having two fins 208 each having a fixing hole thereon, for control a U-shape sticks 209 and nuts 210 as to **dispose the shell on the gas pipe 342**

by a removal way.”

The external wireless remote control extension 200 is not built in the equipment which is being controlled. The external wireless remote control extension 200 is used as an external addition-type control unit for controlling a wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment. The “addition-type” means that the external remote control extension 200 is not built in the equipment for being remotely controlled by the external remote control host, instead, the external remote control extension 200 can be fixed on the equipment in a removal way to control the wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Weng. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being obvious over Weng. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

First of all, it is noted with great appreciation that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 8-18 and 19-22 as being allowable over the art of record.

Turing to the rejection, for a proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b), the cited reference must disclose all features of the claim.

Independent 1, as amended, states:

Claim 1. An external bilateral telephone interface remote control system, comprising:

an external remote control host, having an input terminal coupled to a phone line and an separate external addition-type remote control extension that is detachably coupled to at least one wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment for forming a remote control network as to control the wire or wireless switch via a phone, wherein

the external remote control host comprises:

- a phone interface processing unit, adapted for processing and receiving phone signals;
- a memory unit, adapted for storing a preset remote control code;
- a processing unit, adapted for identifying and processing a control signal from the phone line;
- a display unit, adapted for displaying a power situation of the separate external addition-type remote control extension; and
- a RF wireless transceiving unit, adapted for receiving and transmitting signals between the processing unit and a RF wireless transceiving unit of the separate external addition-type remote control extension,

the separate external addition-type remote control extension further comprises:

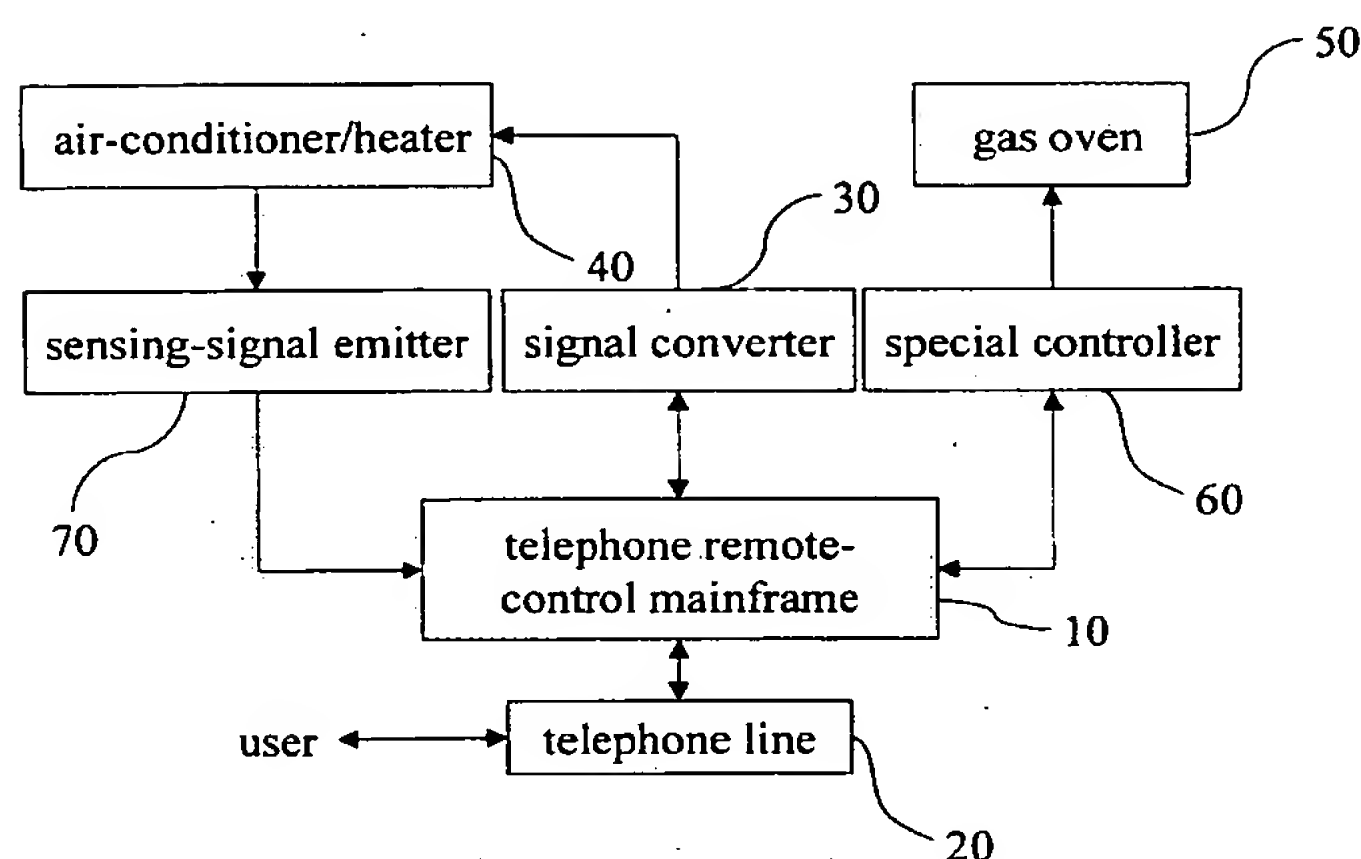
- a feed back module, adapted for generating a feedback signal;
- a processing unit, adapted for identifying and processing a remote control signal from the RF wireless transceiving unit of the separate external addition-type remote control extension and the feedback signal from the feedback module;
- a switch driving module, adapted for turning on or off the wire or wireless switch according to the remote control signal from the processing unit; and
- an address encoding unit, adapted for encoding the on or off of the wire or wireless switch, thereby performing the bilateral remote control via the remote control network and the phone line.

Independent claim 1 is allowable for at least the reason that Weng at least does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least the features that are highlighted in claim 1 above. More specifically, Weng at least does not disclose “an separate external addition-type remote control extension that is detachably coupled to at least one wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment for forming a remote control network as to control the wire or

wireless switch via a phone” as claimed for controlling the wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment via a phone. Furthermore, Weng at least does not disclose “RF wireless transceiving unit” as claimed for “ubiquitously” remotely controlling the wire or wireless switch.

Weng Reference

Weng relates to a “distant remote-control device of electric appliance.” The distant remote-control device of electric appliance comprises a telephone remote-control



mainframe 10 and a signal converter 30. The telephone remote-control mainframe 10 is connected with a telephone line 30 to provide distant remote control for a user using telephone tones.

The signal converter 30 first learns and stores infrared remote-control signals of an electric appliance to control an air-conditioner/heater 40. A switch of a wireless remote-control gas oven 50 is controlled using a special controller 60. The air-conditioner/heater 40 has a sensing-signal emitter 70. When the air-conditioner/heater 40 receives the infrared remote-control signal to start operating, the sensing-signal emitter 70 senses variation generated by the air-conditioner/heater 40 due to practical operation to emits a sensing signal to the telephone remote-control mainframe 10, thereby informing a distant user the

air-conditioner/heater 40 has started operating normally. (*See Weng, Col. 2, Line 53 to Col. 3, Line 18*)

In the Weng, as shown in Fig.3, the signal of an infrared architecture is used for remote controlling. An **infrared receiving circuit has to be built in the air-conditioner/heater 40** for receiving the control signals and infrared emitting circuit 308 for transmitting the reply thereto. The remote control can only be applied to and implemented in some specific devices built in with an infrared receiving and transmitting circuits, which cost very much. The other devices without being built in with an infrared receiving and transmitting circuits can not be applied to and implemented for the remote control, which means that remaining equipments without such installation will not be remotely controlled by the architecture disclosed in Weng.

Furthermore, the remote control of the infrared application is highly directional, which means that the receiver and transmitter have to be installed in a predetermined direction and no obstrucater can be interposed between the infrared signal transmitter and the infrared signal receiver.

Regarding to the switch of a wireless remote-control gas oven 50 and the special controller 60, the receiver and transmitter are still have to be installed in the gas oven 50, for respectively receiving the control signals and transmitting the reply thereto. The remote control can only be applied to and implemented in some specific devices with the installed with an receiving and transmitting circuits, which cost very much. The other devices without being installed with such manner will not be incorporated into the remote-control architecture disclosed in Weng.

Present Invention v. Weng Reference

Under the external bilateral telephone interface remote control system of the present invention, the external remote control extension is used as an external addition-type control unit for controlling a wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment, that is, the external remote control extension can be **detachably fixed in a separate equipment in a removal manner**. All kinds of the equipments can be remotely controlled by the remote control system of the present invention, even no receiver and transmitter are installed in the separate equipment. It will cost little to install the external bilateral telephone interface remote control system in the manufacturing factory.

Weng do not disclose, teach, or suggest, either implicitly or explicitly, the “an **separate external addition-type remote control extension that is detachably coupled to at least one wire or wireless switch of a separate equipment for forming a remote control network as to control the wire or wireless switch via a phone**” as claimed for controlling the wire or wireless switch via a phone. On the contrary, the Weng disclosed an **infrared receiving circuit has to be built in the air-conditioner/heater 40 for remotely control**.

Applicant respectfully request for reconsideration of the reasons set forth above. The present invention relates to an external bilateral phone interface remote control system, in which the **separate external addition-type remote control extension** can be **detachably fixed in a separate equipment in a removal manner**. Such manner has

very high flexibility and high mobility, especially for some old and existed equipments, **without built in any control mechanism**. The invention provides a very cheap and efficient way to achieve the goal of automatic controlling. In addition, for guarding safety of the factory and home, the **control as will** is important because if some accident occurs, the remote control should not be interrupted between the control host and the device under control. The invention provide a solution by using the RF transceiver, and the **control as will** can be achieved.

Furthermore, Weng at least does not disclose “*RF wireless transceiving unit*” as claimed for remotely controlling *an external remote control extension*, instead, the Weng disclosed an **infrared receiving and transmitting circuit**. As stated above, the remote control of the infrared application is highly directional, which means that the receiver and transmitter have to be installed in a predetermined direction and no obstrucater can be interposed between the infrared signal transmitter and the infrared signal receiver, otherwise, the remote control will fail if some obstrucater is interposed therebetween. However, in the present invention, RF wireless transceiving application is used for transmitting control and feedback signals, in which the external remote control host can communicate with the control the external remote control extension as desired and as will.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that claim 1 is patentable over prior arts of record.

Claims 2-7

Because independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, its dependent claims 2-7 are allowable as a matter of law, for at least the reason that these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. Additionally and notwithstanding the foregoing allowability of these dependent claims, the dependent claims recite further features and/or combinations of features (as is apparent by examination of the claim itself) that are patentably distinct from the prior art of record. Hence, there are other reasons why this dependent claim is allowable.

Weng at least does not disclose “the switch driving module comprises a motor, a sensing unit disposed in the separate equipment and a sensing driving unit coupled to the sensing unit” as defined in amended dependent claim 7. The external bilateral telephone interface remote control system of the present invention comprises an external remote control host with a RF wireless transceiving unit, an external remote control extension with a RF wireless transceiving unit and a switch driving module. As stated in Paragraph [0047], Lines 10-13, which states “the sensing unit 62 is adapted for measuring the user’s required physical and chemical data of temperature, pressure, concentration, wind or PH value, etc. The switch driving module 63 is adapted for driving the wire or wireless switch.”

By using the sensing architecture and the RF communication, a positive automatic control, which is done like a human beings, is achieved. Under some abnormal condition being detected and the abnormal data being compared with a limit value preset, the switch driving module and the RF wireless transceiving unit should be triggered, to turn off the power of equipment. *see para. [0099] of Specification.*

Miscellaneous Issue

The corresponding foreign patent application in Taiwan is filed on May 23, 2002, serial no. 091110845, and now allowed as Taiwan Patent No. 586080.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-22 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



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